

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

ALASTALO et al

Atty. Ref.:

30-557

Serial No.

Unknown

Group:

National Phase of:

PCT/FI00/00724 International Filing Date: 25 August 2000

Filed:

Herewith

Examiner:

For:

METHOD FOR BLEACHING PULP WITH CHLORINE

DIOXIDE

February 26, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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A.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title insert the following:

-- This application is the US national phase of international application PCT/FI00/00724 filed August 25, 2000 which designated the U.S. ---.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

9. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the treatment is carried out in several steps.

Add the following new claims:

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